

RECOGNIZING THE DEDICATION OF
THE BETTY DEVANE COVINGTON
LIBRARY AT DUMFRIES ELE-
MENTARY SCHOOL

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2015

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the dedication of the "Betty DeVane Covington Library" at Dumfries Elementary School in Dumfries, Virginia. This year marks Mrs. Covington's 54th year in education and her 53rd year with the Prince William County Schools, having served as a classroom teacher, assistant principal, principal, and now School Board member. Mrs. Covington's tireless work has helped shape the minds and hearts of thousands of students, both young and old.

Mrs. Covington's longevity in the community is noted by many firsts. She served as the principal of the Saunders Kindergarten Center, the first public kindergarten in Prince William County; in 1995, she became the first elected School Board member in Dumfries, now Potomac Magisterial District; and she received the inaugural Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Washington/Prince William-Manassas, Educator of the Year Award, which was later renamed in her honor.

With a career dating back to 1961, Mrs. Covington has worked in numerous elementary schools within the county. Nine of her 11 years as a classroom teacher were spent at Dumfries Elementary School. Three years were spent as an assistant principal of Dale City Elementary School. During her tenure, the school participated in a pilot program for year-round education. From 1974 to 1976, Mrs. Covington served as principal of the Saunders Kindergarten Center. She ended her career after 19 years as principal of Kilby Elementary School. That same year, she was elected to the Prince William County School Board. Mrs. Covington served as the Dumfries School Board member for one year before returning to Dumfries Elementary School as the appointed principal for six years. Upon her final retirement from education administration in 2005, Mrs. Covington was again elected to the Prince William County School Board to serve three consecutive terms.

Over the course of her career, Mrs. Covington has been recognized for her commitment to educating the students of Prince William County. She has been nominated for The Washington Post Distinguished Educational Leadership Award and Prince William County Principal of the Year. Her accolades also include receiving the Service Award from the School Board, Women of the Year from the Soroptimist Club, the Zontas Club, and Commission for Women, Minerva Award for Public Service by the Prince William County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., and the Human Rights Award from the Prince William County Human Rights Commission, to name just a few.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Betty Covington for her unwavering dedication to serving the children of Prince William County, first in the classroom and more recently as a member of the School Board representing the Potomac Magisterial District. Mrs. Covington has been an integral

and essential part of Prince William Public Schools through her commitment to public service for the betterment of our community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF
SERGEANT MICHAEL JOE NAYLOR

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2015

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Sgt. Michael Joe Naylor of the Midland County Sheriff's Department. Sadly, Sgt. Naylor was taken from us in the line of duty on October 9, 2014.

Sgt. Naylor's life was dedicated to the service of his community and our county. After graduating from high school, Mike enlisted in the United States Air Force, where he served 26 honorable years and earning the rank of Senior Master Sergeant before retiring.

After retiring from the military in 1999, Mike joined the Midland County Sheriff's Department. Through the years, Mike rose through the ranks and served as a leader on the police force. He was actively involved in many initiatives within the department, most notably serving as Commander of the Midland County Sheriff's Department Honor Guard. In addition to serving as a Deputy Sheriff, Mike was also an emergency medical technician. Mike's noble duty to always protect others is one of the many reasons that made him special to Midland County.

Anybody who knew Mike would say that he was a compassionate and selfless professional that went above and beyond to serve his fellow man. His lifetime of service was recently recognized by the state of Texas with the renaming of State Highway 191 as the "Sergeant Michael Naylor Memorial Highway". I had the privilege to be a part of this dedication ceremony and am grateful for that opportunity.

On December 27th, we will be celebrating Mike's 48th birthday. Although the wounds of his loss are still fresh in the hearts of many back home, we must all come together and remember all of the good that Mike offered to the world. We are blessed to have individuals like Mike that serve our communities. His service exemplifies every aspect of the American spirit and makes our communities stronger and safer. His life is an example of how one's service can make their home a better place. His legacy will forever be carried on by his wife Denise, the rest of his immediate family, and his family of first responders.

HONORING THE FIRST BROADCAST
AND GRAND OPENING OF KEXP'S
NEW HOME AT SEATTLE CENTER

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2015

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the first broadcast from KEXP's New Home in Seattle, and to salute the station as it prepares for the Grand Opening of its new home for music discovery in April of 2016.

Since its founding in 1972, KEXP has always been a champion for music discovery.

With a radio broadcast and online stream that reaches over 200,000 people per week as well as a video channel that reaches 750,000 more, KEXP has provided music lovers with decades of trusted, curated music discovery experiences, and introduced a global audience to new artists from the Pacific Northwest and beyond.

As a public radio station with vibrant community support, KEXP empowers its DJs to make bold choices and push themselves creatively, introducing audiences to new artists, and putting music in context by sharing stories, connecting musical threads, and juxtaposing today's emerging artists with the seminal artists that inspire them.

KEXP provides bands from the Pacific Northwest a stage from which they launch their music careers. KEXP connects thousands of artists to millions of music lovers. KEXP connects talent to record labels, promoters, and the music industry. The result is powerful; a thriving population of artists and bands who have the opportunity to successfully perform and present their art. KEXP is invigorating the community by helping arts and culture thrive in the Pacific Northwest.

With the opening of its new home at Seattle Center, KEXP will be able to serve the community in exciting new ways. It will host free live performances, create new educational partnerships, create public engagement spaces, and house cutting-edge broadcast and production technology.

As we tune in and celebrate the first broadcast from this state-of-the-art facility, I would like to convey my congratulations to KEXP on the opening of its new home as well as the growing number of opportunities it will create to bring great music into the lives of those in the 7th Congressional District and around the world.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 22,
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION RE-
AUTHORIZATION AND REFORM
ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. GARRET GRAVES

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 3, 2015

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, while I support the policy merits of this bill, I have strong concern about some of the funding mechanisms used to help pay for it. The concerns include provisions for drawdown and sale of crude oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR), selling 66 million barrels of crude oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve in order to provide \$6.2 billion in offsets over 10 years.

As is often the case, what we have accomplished here is nothing more than an unsustainable budget gimmick. As adjusted for inflation, the average price per barrel of oil currently stored in the SPR is \$74. At a time when the global price of oil hovers at less than \$40 a barrel, and as OPEC continues to produce and flood the global market at historic rates, with no end in sight, I simply do not see how we can budget the sale of SPR oil at \$94 per barrel on average over the next 10 years to total \$6.2 billion in revenue. Our SPR was never intended as a budget gimmick, it is